

JOHN J. HOFFMAN
ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY
Division of Law
124 Halsey Street, 5th Floor
P.O. Box 45029
Newark, New Jersey 07101
Attorney for Board of Nursing

By: Barbara J.K. Lopez
Deputy Attorney General
(973) 648-7454

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION :	
FOR LICENSURE OF :	Administrative Action
:	
MARITZA HERNANDEZ :	CONSENT ORDER
:	
TO PRACTICE NURSING :	
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY :	
:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of Maritza Hernandez's application for licensure by examination as a Registered Professional Nurse, including a certification and authorization form for a criminal history background check, dated August 8, 2013. The applicant disclosed a criminal history including an arrest on March 22, 2013 by members of the Hammonton Police Department for violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:20-4 (Theft by Deception). On June 3, 2013, the applicant entered Pre-Trial Intervention (PTI) for a period of

three years. As part of the special conditions of PTI, the applicant must pay restitution and fees of one thousand seven hundred seventeen dollars and fifteen cents (\$1,717.15).

The applicant maintains that she had been unemployed and received government assistance for a period of time. After obtaining employment, she maintains that she attempted to notify the relevant government office of her change in income status. The applicant continued to receive assistance and maintains that she assumed that she still qualified for assistance, even with the change in income status. After receiving notice that she had been overpaid and agreeing to repay the money, the applicant once again experienced financial hardship and failed to repay the money she owed. Thereafter, her wages were garnished and she was charged with Theft by Deception.

The Board finds that the applicant has engaged in acts constituting a crime or offense relating adversely to nursing within the intendment of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(f). The applicant maintains that she is slated for early release from PTI after paying off the remainder of restitution and completing twenty five hours of community service. The applicant has submitted letters of recommendation from nurses, including an associate professor of nursing who describes the applicant's position as

Vice President of the Student Nurse Club in charge of the pinning ceremony - a considerable event with over 600 attendees and \$10,000 worth of expenses which the applicant handled with honesty, organization, and dedication.

The Board having reviewed this matter, and having considered the nature of the above conduct, and the parties desiring to resolve this matter, and the Board having determined that the within Order is sufficiently protective of the public, in lieu of further proceedings, and for other good cause shown;

IT IS on this 10th day of August, 2015
~~2014~~

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED that:


1. Maritza Hernandez's application for licensure as a Registered Professional Nurse shall be granted upon successful completion of the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN), fulfilling all other requirements for licensure, and upon proof of payment of the total financial obligation imposed as a condition of PTI, namely one thousand seven hundred seventeen dollars and fifteen cents (\$1,717.15). The applicant shall submit proof of full payment to the attention of George Hebert, Executive Director, New Jersey Board of Nursing, 124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

2. The applicant shall successfully complete all conditions of PTI and notify the Board in writing within ten days of any change in PTI status.

3. The applicant shall obey all the laws of the State of New Jersey, the United States and their political subdivisions, as well as all regulations, rules or laws pertaining to the practice of nursing in any State or jurisdiction in which she practices nursing.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: _____


Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN
Board President

I have read and understand
the within Consent Order
and agree to be bound by
its terms.


Maritza Hernandez